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For Immediate Release

Annual Fire Service recognition awards for 2012 announced

(Anchorage) The Alaska Division of Fire and Life Safety is pleased to announce the 2012 Annual Fire Service recognition awards. The Division accepts nominations for these awards from all over the State and a committee comprised of the previous year's winners selects the winners. The awards were presented at the 2012 Alaska Fire Conference in Sitka, Alaska on September 21, 2012.

The Ken Akerley Fire Service Leadership Award is awarded to an individual that exhibits an extraordinary commitment to leading their fire department and has earned the trust and respect of their subordinates and peers. The recipient of this award for 2012 is former Alaska State Fire Marshal David Tyler. Before retiring in August of 2012 Fire Marshal Tyler served many communities throughout his career in the fire service. His leadership skills helped promote quality training and safety to all emergency responders as well as the citizens of the State of Alaska. Fire Marshal Tyler was considered a valuable member of the Department of Public Safety's management team.

The William A Hagevig Fire Service Instructor of the Year award is awarded to a fire service instructor who demonstrates an amazing dedication to training and education of members of their organization. Training Officer Nathan Young with Capital City Fire Rescue is this year's recipient. Training Officer Young goes out of his way to ensure that his department has a solid understanding of new techniques and consistently works to keep them up on the latest cutting edge training. Training Officer Young has implemented a very successful academy style Firefighter I program for Capital City Fire Rescue.

The Fire and Life Safety Educator of the Year award is awarded to a fire and life safety educator who's dedication to the reduction of fire related death and injury goes above and beyond. Fire Prevention Officer Kyle Green of the North Pole Fire Department is the recipient of this award for 2012. Prevention Officer Green has shown exceptional dedication to delivering fire and life safety programs throughout the year for all residents in the North Pole area. Prevention Officer Green has truly made a difference in protecting the residents of the City of North Pole and surrounding area from fire. Prevention Officer Green has assisted the Alaska Division of Fire and Life Safety in coordinating and staffing a prevention booth at the Interior Alaska Homebuilders Association annual home show in Fairbanks.

The Firefighter of the Year award is awarded to a firefighter who demonstrates outstanding actions on the scene of an emergency or at other functions in their community. Firefighter/EMT Autumn Ludwig of the Bear Creek Fire Service Area is the 2012 recipient. Firefighter Ludwig has demonstrated dedication to the Fire Service since joining in January of 2010. Firefighter Ludwig has attained several certifications since joining including: Emergency Trauma Technician, Emergency Medical Technician, Search and Rescue Technician, Low to High Angle Rope Rescue Technician and Basic Firefighter. Firefighter Ludwig placed her own life in the path of a racer falling from the cliff of Mount Marathon on July 4th, stopping the runner's fall. Firefighter Ludwig was credited with protecting the runner from life threatening injuries and rendered aid until help arrived.

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